

U.S. Department of Defense Schools. This year the awards focused on K-6th grade teachers. Each teacher receives \$10,000 and a trip to our Nation's Capital.

The requirements for this award are difficult to attain and demand a great deal of effort on the part of the teacher. It is only given to those teachers who embody excellence in teaching, demonstrate devotion to the students, and are able to uphold the high standards that exemplify American education at its finest. It recognizes the important contributions teachers make to American young people and to the promise of America's future.

I am very proud of this Kentucky teacher's accomplishments. Since she began teaching in 1958, she has been an inspiration to many students. In the news release concerning the Award, one of Ms. Horton's students was quoted as saying, "Teaching is the art of making learning irresistible." I have no doubt which teacher that student was talking about. I congratulate Ms. Horton on her ability to make learning irresistible and I thank her for the work she has done to educate the next generation of Americans. ●

CONGRATULATING THE AMERICAN LEGACY FOUNDATION ON RECEIVING THE EPA CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AWARD

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President. I congratulate the American Legacy Foundation on the occasion of yesterday's announcement by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that the Foundation is a recipient of the agency's Children's Environmental Health Award.

The widespread use of tobacco and devastating effects of secondhand smoke create a serious environmental health risk for America's children. Since its inception 5 years ago, the American Legacy Foundation, a nonprofit health organization dedicated to building a world where young people reject tobacco and anyone can quit, has worked to discourage adult and youth tobacco use and reduce the effects of secondhand smoke.

Passive exposure through secondhand smoke, or environmental tobacco smoke, puts children at risk for a range of negative health consequences including asthma, ear infections, bronchitis, pneumonia, reduced lung function, respiratory infection, and other chronic respiratory symptoms. According to current population survey data, 13.8 million kids ages 0 to 17 are exposed to secondhand smoke and 22 percent of middle school students and 24 percent of high school students are exposed to secondhand smoke in the home. American Legacy's campaigns and programs to reduce smoking are helping to reduce the number of young people breathing environmental tobacco smoke.

The Environmental Protection Agency is recognizing the Foundation be-

cause of its initiatives to address the negative health effects of tobacco. Outreach efforts include public awareness campaigns and initiatives designed to educate and empower youth to take action against the environmental health threat that smoking and secondhand smoke poses to them.

It is with great pleasure today that I commend the agency for its program of recognition and the American Legacy Foundation for its award. ●

RANDY WHITE: AN IDAHO HERO

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, many times over the past few years that our military men and women have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, we have heard the accounts of combat, injury and death. Sometimes, we can lose sight of the fact that there are people here at home who put their lives on the line every day in the execution of their law enforcement duties. In September 2003, Randy White, a courageous police officer and 16-year veteran of the Minidoka County Sheriff's Office put his life on the line to protect innocent bystanders and fellow officers from injury and death. In the course of apprehending a fugitive from an Idaho bank robbery in Jackpot, NV, Randy sustained gunshots to his abdomen and legs, one of which was at point-blank range. He still suffers from these injuries, but returned to work very shortly following his harrowing experience and has not allowed the extent of his injuries to derail his work and activities.

Randy and his wife SunDee have four children, Jared, Jordan, Michelle and Dalen. Randy is active in the LDS church in Rupert, ID, serving as high priest group leader. He has devoted many years to the Boy Scouts, first serving as a Cub Scout Master for 10 years and then a Scout Master for 8. He now holds the position of Scout Committee Chairman. A third generation Idahoan, Randy spent 10 years on active duty with the Navy and 19 years in the Navy Reserves. His active duty time included a tour in Vietnam. Along with his devotion to his family and dedication to his job and community, he has retained his sense of humor, even in the recent trauma he experienced. He said this when asked about the shooting, "I spent two years in Vietnam and was shot at many times but never hit. I came back to sleepy Idaho and rural Nevada and got shot three times!" Randy is a courageous, hard-working father, husband and community leader. I wish him well as he continues his recovery, and congratulate him on his selection to be the new Rupert Chief of Police. Today, he is being awarded the FBI Shield of Bravery and Star Award in Rupert, ID. I am honored to recognize Randy's bravery and courage today in the United States Senate, as well as the bravery and courage of all other Americans in law enforcement across our country. Randy embodies the spirit of the great State of Idaho. We are all extremely fortu-

nate that individuals like this exceptional man we honor today protect our freedom here at home. ●

HONORING THE CAREER OF SECRETARY JAMES ELLENBECKER

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, it is with great honor that I recognize the leadership and many achievements of South Dakota Secretary of Social Services James Ellenbecker. Secretary Ellenbecker embodies the highest qualities of public service and has deservedly earned the respect and admiration of all those who have had the opportunity to work with him. After 35 years of public service, Secretary Ellenbecker is retiring as South Dakota's Secretary of Social Services, leaving behind an extraordinary legacy.

Secretary Ellenbecker began his career with the South Dakota government in 1970, and has since dedicated his life to serving the citizens of South Dakota. Working for the State Planning Agency and then the Department of Labor, he ultimately found himself in the Department of Social Services after providing then-Governor Bill Janklow with information he urgently needed late one Friday afternoon. Following their encounter, Governor Janklow appointed James Secretary of Social Services in 1980, a post he has held ever since.

During his 25 year tenure as secretary, under the leadership of four different governors, Secretary Ellenbecker played a vital role in enhancing South Dakota's Social Services infrastructure. As head of one of the largest and most complex agencies in the state, he promoted innovations which significantly enhanced its treatment of the elderly, children and single parent families. His influence on South Dakota's 1988 Elderly Initiative resulted in a responsive, efficient, and cost-effective long-term care system for the elderly, thus easing the burdens many families face both financially and emotionally. Under this new plan, more aged residents could live at home and maintain their independence.

Secretary Ellenbecker is also responsible for transforming South Dakota's welfare program. As a result of his vision and dedication, South Dakota has one of the most successful child support programs in the country. His strategy improved the lives of countless single parents by holding absent parents financially responsible for their children. Similarly, 67,000 uninsured children in South Dakota gained access to health care as a result of Secretary Ellenbecker's diligent management of South Dakota's medical services program.

I had the privilege of working with Secretary Ellenbecker during my years of service in the South Dakota Legislature. Throughout my years in Congress, when constituents contacted my office with issues involving the South Dakota Department of Social Services, I could always rely upon Secretary